

REMARKS

Claims 1, 5, 6, 10, 12 and 17 are pending.

Previously withdrawn Claims 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, 16 and 19 have been cancelled.

Apparatus Claims 4, 13, 14, 15 have been cancelled and their features added to Claim 1.

Method Claims 11, 18 and 20 have been cancelled.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating Claim 15 recites allowable subject matter. Thus, Claim 1 is rewritten to recite Claim 15 in independent form by combining Claim 15 with its base Claim 1 and intervening Claims 4, 13 and 14. All the present claims depend from Claim 1. Thus, Applicant respectfully submits this Amendment moots the 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejections.

In particular, Claim 1 has been amended to add the following:

wherein said detection means and said valve means are of the hydraulic type, and said valve means comprises a valve able to be selectively activated to act on the at least one command member of said feed pump to vary the hydraulic delivery of said feed pump; **(FROM CLAIM 4)**

an actuator, wherein said at least one command member is mechanically connected to said actuator kept in an intermediate position of balance by counteracting elastic means for balancing said actuator arranged inside respective containing chambers; **(FROM CLAIM 13)**

wherein said actuator comprises a hydraulic actuator, at least one of said containing chambers is connected to said valve means, and the activation of said valve means determines the axial displacement of said hydraulic actuator for inverting the direction of pumping or reducing the hydraulic delivery of the feed pump; **(FROM CLAIM 14)**

a distributor valve connected to said containing chambers that axially displaces the actuator in accordance with a manual command, wherein said valve means predominates over said distributor valve in affecting the displacement of the actuator **(FROM CLAIM 15)**.

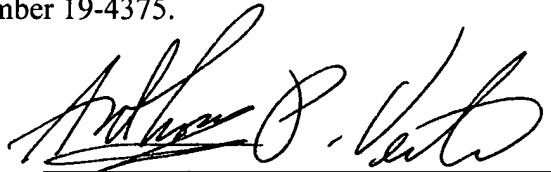
The language from Claims 13 and 14 is amended to overcome rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, mentioned in the final Office action. In particular, the language from Claim 13 is amended to change "said command members" to "said at least one command member" to be consistent with language already in Claim 1 and thus have antecedent basis. Also, the language from Claim 14 is amended to provide antecedent basis for the hydraulic actuator. Claim 17 is amended to depend from Claim 1 because Claims 1 and 4 were combined.

Conclusion

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that all objections and rejections are overcome. Thus, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

If any additional fee is necessary to make this paper timely and/or complete, it may be charged to the undersigned's deposit account number 19-4375.

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